



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1101  
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

May 13, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE  
BUILDING REHABILITATION APPEALS BOARD  
IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF HAWTHORNE AND LOS ANGELES  
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

This action is to adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board and provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board that provide for abatement of public nuisances at the following locations:

3352 West 133rd Street, Hawthorne, California 90250  
2020 Thoreau Street, Los Angeles, California 90047

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures. The Building Code provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs that we provide Service Excellence (Goal 1) and Community Services (Goal 6) as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no increase in net County cost or negative fiscal impact. Costs of the abatement work are billed to the property owners. Failure to pay the bill will cause a special assessment to be placed on the tax bill and a Notice of Abatement Lien will be recorded against the property with the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Building Code, provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owners be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance(s) by the County. However, your Board adopted modified procedures that delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to your Board.

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

Your Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before your Board.

**ADDRESS: 3352 West 133rd Street, Hawthorne, California 90250**

**Finding and Orders:** The Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by May 16, 2008, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by May 16, 2008, the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

**List of Defects**

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial reduction in the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. Overgrown vegetation, weeds, and debris constituting an unsightly appearance.
3. Attractive nuisances in the form of abandoned or broken equipment, neglected machinery, refrigerators, and freezers.
4. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
5. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
6. Trash and junk scattered about the premises.
7. Garbage cans and packing crates stored in front or side yards and visible from public streets.
8. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

**ADDRESS: 2020 Thoreau Street, Los Angeles, California 90047**

**Finding and Orders:** The Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by May 16, 2008, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by June 16, 2008, the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects.

**List of Defects**

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial reduction in the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building is dilapidated, apparently abandoned, and damaged by vandals.
3. Doors and windows are broken or missing.
4. Portions of the north and east exterior wall coverings are deteriorating and stucco is missing.
5. The exterior front landing at the doorway has deteriorated.
6. The electrical service is missing.
7. The premises contain overgrown vegetation and weeds.
8. The openable window areas in the rooms on the eastside are less than the required code minimum.

The interior of the building was not accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Not applicable.


**CONCLUSION**

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstruct the free use of neighboring properties so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
May 13, 2008  
Page 5

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Respectfully submitted,

  
for WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:DDE  
RP:ICP:pc

c: County Counsel